



Fortnightly Newsletter
19/03/2010

Issue 13

BCA runs on community participation

Web address:-www.bcacan.org

Important dates for your Diary

1. April 17- Electing committee for the next financial year and celebrating Bengali New Year.

2. May 8 - Bangla Natok "Raj Darshan" and celebrating Rabindra Jayanti

Profile of a Member



Dr. Mahananda Dasgupta, First female Professor in Nuclear Physics in 60 years history of the Australian National University. Mahananda was also awarded the Pawsey Medal for 2006. This award recognises outstanding research in physics by scientists less than 40 years old.

Dr Mahananda Dasgupta was born in Jaipur, India. Mahananda's interest in physics and mathematics was fostered by her parents, in particular her mother. She completed her Masters in Jaipur, and then moved to the prestigious Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in Bombay to do her PhD, which she completed in 1992. Mahananda

was subsequently offered a Post Doctoral position in Australia, at the Department of Nuclear Physics within the Research School of Physical Sciences and Engineering (RSPHysSE) at the ANU. She gladly accepted, since the Department had already an attractive research program, with the added bonus of an exotic location. Thereafter, she stayed on in RSPHysSE as a Research Fellow. From 1998 to 2003 she held a Queen Elizabeth II Fellowship offered by the Australian Research Council. Mahananda now has a continuing position in RSPHysSE, being the first female tenured scientist there, and she works in the Nuclear Reaction Dynamics group. Mahananda's research interests are in the fundamental process of fusion of heavy nuclei, understanding what happens when nuclei collide. Her work involves quantum tunnelling, manipulating objects like ions and nuclei such that they make a transition through a classically-forbidden energy region. For example, at a quantum scale, positively charged nuclei of gold atoms can react with a beam of positively charged oxygen atoms, even when the energy is lower than that required to overcome their mutual repulsion (resulting from their positive charges).

To enable these reactions, the beam particles need to be travelling at very high velocity, up to 10% of the speed of light, and this is why her research takes place at the ANU's heavy-ion accelerator facility. In addition to carrying out complex experiments, together with her technical team, Mahananda has also designed and built a novel detection system "Solitaire". This unique made-to-measure device effectively separates and identifies rare events of interest from billions of unwanted events, allowing precise measurements of the extremely short-lived nuclear collision products.



Skyfire 20 march 2010 (Facts & Figures) - (information by 104.7FM)

Venue: on the shores of Lake burley griffin Time: 9.00 PM.

104.7 Skyfire 2010 will be the largest fireworks display in the history of Skyfire with approximately 3,500 aerial shells, 25,000 shooting comets, and a total of 40,000 individual pyrotechnic effects will be incorporated into the display.

With some unique effects this year Foti International Fireworks hopes to bring enjoyment to Australia's Capital.

With 11 firing platforms stretching over 400m, not only will it be the largest but also the widest pyrotechnic platform used on Lake Burley Griffin as the launch pad for the Pyrotechnic extravaganza.

There will be in excess of 12000kg of equipment, 1000kg of explosive devices launched into the night sky with more than 15,000 metres of wires and cables that are required to interface with the 6 computers that will launch 2100 cues during the display.

The display will be choreographed to the 104.7 soundtrack with over 600 hours of design and preparation that will go into the Skyfire display using a Pyrotechnic crew of 14

The Skyfire fireworks display is regarded as the largest and most technologically advanced fireworks display in Canberra. The display draws large crowds of up to 150,000.

NATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL

Exhibition Park, Canberra April 1-5, 2010



They come to share in the songs, dances, tunes, and verse that have flowed through the ages from many communities into Australian folk culture. For five days Exhibition Park in Canberra becomes a magic place, filled with colour and sound. Hundreds of the world's best musicians perform daily, in a non-stop flow of entertainment across twenty two fabulous venues. Every day is packed with workshops and sessions, where you can join in the dancing, singing and playing and become part of the celebration. It's all there for you; once you've bought your ticket and come through the gates you won't need to leave.

An angry wife was complaining about her husband spending too much time at the pub, so one night he took her along. "What'll ya have?" he asked.

"Oh, I don't know. The same as you, I suppose," she replied.

So the husband ordered a couple of whiskies, then threw his down in one gulp. His wife took a sip from her glass and immediately spat it out.

"Yuck, that's nasty poison!" she sputtered. "I don't know how you can drink this stuff!"

"Well, there you go," cried the husband. "And you thought I was out enjoying myself every night!" - Nilanjana Das

Please remember

*We want you all to contribute to
this newsletter consistently.*

Send your articles to

podeakin@grapevine.com.au

NEXT FORTNIGHT, IF YOU ARE CELEBRATING YOUR BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY, PLEASE SHARE IT WITH US. PLEASE ALSO SHARE YOUR JOKES, RECIPES, HOLIDAY TRIPS ETC, MORE IMPORTANTLY, YOUR PRECIOUS EVENTS IN YOUR LIFE- **SHARE IT WITH YOUR COMMUNITY.**

Poster

courtesy: Mr Sujoy Dasgupta

PLEASE LISTEN TO BANGLA RADIO

@ 98.3 FM 2-3PM

Saturday 20 March 2010

desicolours.com



Three sentences for getting success:

Know more than other | Work more than other | Expect less than other

- William Shakespeare

BCA Executive Committee 2009—2010

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